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DPWI HOSTS EPWP VIRTUAL LEARNING PROGRAMME

Article by Michael Mokoena & Pictures by EPWP Enterprise Development Unit

Registering to get vaccinated is easy!
Citizens aged 60 years and above need to register for their COVID-19 vaccination

<p>www. Any device with Internet Access</p> <p>Connect device to the internet and go to: https://vaccine.enroll.health.gov.za</p>	<p>USSD FREE on all South African Mobile Networks</p> <p>Dial *134*832*IDNumber# No ID Number? Just dial *134*832#</p>	<p>WhatsApp Internet access or data required</p> <p>Send the word REGISTER to 060 012 3456 on Whatsapp</p>
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- Follow the instructions and enter all the information that is requested.
- You will need your identification number (Passport, Asylum seeker number, RSA ID or refugee number)
- Enter the location where you want to be vaccinated (home or work)
- If you are a member of a medical aid you will need your medical aid provider name and your medical aid number

#IChooseVacciNation

Should you encounter problems during the registration process contact the COVID-19 hotline 0800 029 999

With Covid-19 health pandemic affecting face-to-face workplace group training, the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI) has sought to use technology to provide training to Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) implementing bodies. The Department, through its EPWP Training unit, has since last year rolled out a virtual strategy to implement the EPWP Learning Programme.

The aim of the Learning Programme is to enhance and promote a common understanding of the EPWP to implementers, policy makers, politicians and new employees to the Programme. The EPWP Training unit recently hosted a week-long virtual learning programme which was attended by officials from Provincial Departments and Municipalities from KwaZulu-Natal, Limpopo and Northern Cape.

The learning programme was facilitated by the Deputy Director for EPWP Training, Ms Nombuso Ngcobo who explained that the participants received extensive information regarding EPWP, its Sectors as well as the cross-cutting support functions. "Participants are expected to go back to their organisations and advocate EPWP and do things differently, for example improve reporting of work opportunities they have created," Ms. Ngcobo said.

During the five day training, various presentations (modules) were delivered including basic understanding of EPWP sectors, EPWP Training, Enterprise Development, and EPWP Monitoring and Evaluation.

Ms Ngcobo indicated that the training session had properly structured group activities. "The aim was to ensure that all participants are interacting by breaking complex tasks into parts

and steps, plan and manage time, refine understanding through discussion and explanation, give and receive feedback on performance and challenge assumptions, develop stronger communication skills, tackle more complex problems than they could on their own, delegate roles and responsibilities, share diverse perspectives and receive social support and encouragement to take risks,"

"This was a best tool to ensure that modules presented were understood," Ms Ngcobo stated. At the end of the learning programme, participants were evaluated and successful candidates will soon be awarded certificates of completion of training.

Ms Ngcobo added that the Department will continue to use the virtual platform to provide training to EPWP implementing bodies. One of the officials who attended the learning programme is the KwaZulu-Natal Regional EPWP Champion, Mr Notha Maphumulo, who expressed excitement about having been part of the training.

"The EPWP Virtual Learning Programme has provided many of us with an in-depth understanding of the EPWP. For instance, we have learned about the importance of providing training to the participants so that when they exit the EPWP they have skills they can use to apply for formal employment or even set up their own small businesses"

"We have also learned about government finance institutions that can help out participants with funding should they (EPWP participants) want to pursue entrepreneurship after exiting the EPWP," Mr Maphumulo explained.



DPWI HOST NYS GRADUATIONS IN LIMPOPO

Article and pictures by Maanea Maselesele

The Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI) hosted a National Youth Service (NYS) graduation ceremony on 26 May 2021 in Polokwane, Limpopo.

The graduating learners participated in the Department's work of refurbishing the Polokwane Magistrate Court. During the 12 month long training, the learners (participants) were exposed to both theoretical and practical work in the field of carpentry, plumbing, electrical and mechanical work as well as plastering and bricklaying. During the graduation ceremony, the participants were awarded Competency Certificates in the Building & Civil Construction at NQF Level 3.

Participants were encouraged to use the skills gained to look for formal employment or even set up small businesses for themselves. Upon graduating, participants were also given toolboxes by the Department so that they can start small businesses. Ms Phethani Muvhali, the EPWP Programme Manager in Limpopo, congratulated the participants for successful completion of the training and wish them well with their future endeavours.

The National Youth Development Agency (NYDA) representative who attended the ceremony encouraged participants to register on the Government's Jobseekers' Database. Upon the completion of the NYS programme, one participant, Mr Mpho Ramoleta, was offered a six months

employment contract as a plumber by a construction company that he was placed with. Mr Ramoleta's contract is expected to run until March 2022.

The ceremony was also utilised to recognise eight EPWP Participants from Limpopo who were selected on a 3 years Artisan Development Programme. These participants are placed at various companies in Limpopo for practical training. The eight participants form part of the 212 artisans who commenced training in the 2020/21 financial year in all the nine Provinces.

During the first phase of EPWP Artisan Development Programme 212 were recruitment throughout the country and are being trained in the following trades: automotive, motor mechanic, boiler maker, bricklaying, carpentry, chef, diesel mechanic, electrician, fitter, instrumentation, lift mechanic, mechanical fitter, millwright, fitter & tuner, plumber, refrigeration, rigger, welder and hairdresser.

This initiative is done in partnership with the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET), Agriculture Sector Education and Training Authority (Agriseta), several Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVETs) colleges and private companies. EPWP projects such as this one does give testimony to our commitment towards youth development in the country.

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